

Message Text

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FM AMEMBASSY SAIGON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 4925

INFO AMEMBASSY TEHRAN PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L SAIGON 4491

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MARR, VS, IR

SUBJECT: IRANDEL RECOMMENDATION RE FUTURE OF ICCS

1. IRANDEL POLITICAL OFFICERS AMELI AND KOWSAR SPOKE WITH EMBOFF APRIL 6 TO EXCHANGE UNOFFICIAL VIEWS ON THE "PRG'S OBJECTIVES IN CURRENT OFFENSIVE AND TO MAKE RECOMMENDATIONS REGARDS FUTURE OF ICCS AND PARIS AGREEMENT.

2. THE TWO OFFICERS BELIEVE THAT SINCE THE COMMISSION IS INCAPABLE OF EFFECTIVELY RESPONDING TO GROSS VC/NVA VIOLATIONS OF PARIS AGREEMENT, THE CONTINUED EXISTENCE OF THE ICCS DURING THE CURRENT COMMUNIST OFFENSIVE PROVIDES TACIT APPROVAL TO THEIR UNRESTRAINED USE OF FORCE. FURTHERMORE, SINCE IT IS THEIR EXPECTATION THAT "PRG" INTEND TO PUBLICIZE THEIR MILITARY CONQUEST AS JUST ACTION DESIGNED TO PUNISH GVN FOR CEASE-FIRE VIOLATIONS WHILE IMPLEMENTING PARIS AGREEMENT, THE PRESENCE OF THE ICCS WILL ONLY LEND CREDIBILITY TO THIS COMMUNIST SCHEME BY PERMITTING IT TO TAKE PLACE UNDER THE LEGAL GUISE OF THE PARIS AGREEMENT.

3. CONSEQUENTLY, AMELI AND KOWSAR URGE STRATEGY DESIGNED TO PREEMPT "PRG" PLAN. THEY RECOMMEND THAT IRANDEL WITHDRAW FROM COMMISSION, SIMULTANEOUSLY ANNOUNCING ABROGATION OF PARIS AGREEMENT. (IN THEIR OPINION, IRAN RATHER THAN US SHOULD BE FIRST TO OFFICIALLY DECLARE AGREEMENT'S DEMISE SINCE IMPACT WOULD BE GREATER ON WORLD OPINION COMING FROM MEMBER OF INTERNATIONAL COMMISSION.) OFFICERS EMPHASIZED THAT TIMING OF THE IRANDEL
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WITHDRAWAL AND OFFICIAL DECLARATION OF END OF PARIS AGREEMENT

CRITICAL IN THIS SCENARIO. THEY BELIEVE EVENTS SHOULD BE ORCHESTRATED SO AS NOT TO UNDERMINE GVN MORALE OR DIMINISH ITS CHANCES FOR FAVORABLE POLITICAL SETTLEMENT BUT THAT UNNECESSARY AND UNREALISTIC DELAY WILL ELIMINATE THE OPPORTUNITY OF PREVENTING ACCOMPLISHMENT OF "PRG" SCHEME TO SECURE LEGAL SANCTION OF THEIR AGGRESSION.

4. COMMENT: AMELI AND KOWSAR CAUTIONED THAT THEY ARE NOT EXPRESSING OFFICIAL POSITION OF IRANDEL; HOWEVER, THEIR OPINION IS RESPECTED BY THE CHIEF OF DELEGATION. THEY HAVE JUST BEEN REASSIGNED TO TEHRAN AND WILL UNDOUBTEDLY PRESS THEIR VIEWS UPON THEIR RETURN. SINCE WE UNDERSTAND THE FATHERS OF BOTH OF THEM ARE CAREER AMBASSADORS, THEIR VIEWS WILL HAVE SOME CURRENCY.

5. WE OF COURSE AGREE THAT THE ICCS SHOULD NOT BE IN THE POSITION OF TACITLY APPROVING DRV/"PRG" AGGRESSION; HOWEVER, AS WE HAVE REPEATEDLY REITERATED TO THE IRANIAN AND INDONESIAN DELEGATIONS, THE WAY FOR THEM TO KEEP THE PUBLIC RECORD CLEAR IS TO ISSUE PUBLIC STATEMENTS POINTING TO THE DRV/"PRG" VIOLATIONS OF THE PARIS AGREEMENT AND DENOUNCING THE AGGRESSION. WE RECOMMEND THAT EMBASSY TEHRAN MAKE THIS POINT IN ITS CONTINUING DIALOGUE WITH THE IRANIAN GOVERNMENT.
MARTIN

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